

REMARKS

This application has been allowed. Applicants respectfully request, however, that the Examiner enter this Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.312(a).

Applicants respectfully request that the filing date of this application be corrected to read December 26, 2000 instead of March 12, 2001.

Applicants respectfully submit that December 26, 2000 is the correct filing date.

A review of the prosecution history clearly shows that the correct filing date is December 26, 2000.

A Request to Correct Filing Date was filed with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on July 3, 2001. No response to that Request has yet been received by applicants.

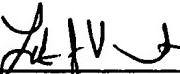
On even date herewith, applicants are filing a Petition to Correct Updated Filing Receipt. Clearly a clerical error was made by the PTO in preparing the Updated Filing Receipt, which resulted in an incorrect filing date being associated with the present application.

Applicants respectfully ask the Examiner to ensure that the filing date is corrected before the patent issues. On even date herewith, applicants are paying the issue fee.

If there are any charges not covered by any checks submitted, please charge
Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

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